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## A Poem that Conquered the World

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### ANNOTATION

The aim of the article is to provide an artistic and legal analysis of Gafur Gulyam's work "You Are Not an Orphan".

**KEYWORDS:** human rights, children's rights, orphanhood, World War II, childhood, violation, devotion to homeland.

The famous national writer and poet Gafur Gulyam, who created many masterpieces of poetry during the Second World War, also gave children wonderful works. His works for children contain ideas of patriotism and internationalism, tones of heroism and courage, and faith in victory. In the poem Our Generation Navkiran Before the Trial, the poet expresses the future of young people, urging them to become worthy of the homeland that gave them their will and happiness.

One of the poet's rare and beautiful works from this period is the poem You Are Not an Orphan. It celebrates the patriotic, fraternal and humane feelings of people towards orphans during the Second World War with great skill. The legendary lines alone are worth mentioning:

Are you an orphan...? Calm down, my darling!  
Like a kind sun leaning over you,  
A mother's deep love, full of love,  
Your childhood is safeguarded by a great country.

It is evident in every verse that the greatness of the Motherland and its good river people are expressed in this passage in moulded imagery, succinctly, movingly. In explaining orphanhood to the children, the poet has achieved an even greater impact of the piece by recalling his own bitter orphan life:

Ask me what orphanhood is.  
As a little boy of five in the tenth year  
I warmed my hands by someone else's fire.  
Half-naked, I carried my needs along the roads.

In his poem, the poet expresses the inevitability of victory in beautiful excitement and high spirits, with imaginative closing lines:

And the cold expanse seems to be warmed at once.

A half-asleep smile with a sudden ray of light.

It's dawn soon, it's a white dawn.

It's a white dawn on my shoulder.

This poem by Gafur Gulyam is a perfect work of great importance for educating young people in the sense of devotion to the homeland, patriotism and internationalism, as well as hatred of invaders.

In fact, the title of the poem itself, *You Are Not an Orphan*, has entered literary and cinematic circles. The legendary film with the same title about the Shomahmudov family, which adopted and brought up 14 orphaned children during the war, was based on this masterpiece. Watching this film still makes the heart flutter to this day.

Why is the poet's work so touching and real? Because Gafur Gulyam himself, being a very sensitive person, used to meet "orphan trains" at the railway station, visited families who had sheltered children. And all this was not in vain, for, as mentioned above, he himself grew up as an orphan and for that reason, understood so keenly the pain of orphanhood.

It would be right to say that the subject of childhood is often present in Gafur Gulyam's works, accompanying him throughout his life, be it a happy or an unhappy childhood. He drew inspiration from real facts, such as the bitter fate of orphans during the war, children's behaviour in society, how well parents raise their children, and what qualities they should nurture in their children. His own children were probably no exception to his inspiration. The poet presents moral lessons directly to children, often in a joking way and as a direct address, as in "You are not an orphan" and "Learning to think".

If we take up the analysis of the poem "You are not an orphan" specifically from a legal perspective, then in the following lines

For people without shelter to wander the world,

For children to die without the affection of men,

But the earth can no longer bear it.

Sleep well, my son, the night will soon end!<sup>1</sup>

In the lines above we can see the description of the torture of people and children, which in general is a violation of human and children's rights. As described in many sources, the years of World War II were full of atrocities, in particular the infamous, horrifying Holocaust, the mass extermination of the Jews, more specifically genocide<sup>2</sup>, which is an international crime in the field of international criminal law. Then there are the rights of the child. Countless children have been left homeless, without parents, all alone. This is also a massive violation of children's rights. Unfortunately or fortunately, in 1989 (quite late), the Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted. Part 2 of Article 3 of the Convention states:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/454122117977455/posts/473189962737337/>

<sup>2</sup> Criminal Code of Uzbekistan, Article 153

"States Parties undertake to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, guardians or other persons legally responsible for him or her, and, to this end, shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures. During the war, due to the massive violation of human rights, these rights were out of the question. However, justice eventually prevailed, as Ghafoor Ghulam believed, reflecting this in the lines "sleep well, my son, the night will soon be over!" Indeed, the night has ended, followed by a white dawn. With the end of the war, the International Military Tribunal was established in 1945 to carry out the Nuremberg Trials, which condemned and punished the main Nazi war criminals, who eventually got what they deserved.

In conclusion, I would like to quote N.S. Tikhonov:

"Gafur Gulyam's poetry is a world where life is taken over by the new, where the native land is seen very differently from the old days, and where man walks on this land in a very different way..."<sup>3</sup>

## REFERENCE LIST

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